



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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08/29/2013 Minutes

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 29, 2013

(Approved, Sept. 26, 2013)

7:30 pm

Arlington Town Hall

Member present: Ann LeRoy, Chair; Patsy Kraemer, Jane Auger, Joey Glushko, Elizabeth Karpati, David White, Michele Hassler

Absent: Lisa Decker, Teresa DeBenedictis, Leslie Mayer/Shirley Canniff

- Minutes of 5/23/2013 - Minutes amended and will be posted.
- Notes from 6/27/2013 - no quorum - Ann sent around notes. Guest - Pam Heidell from master plan project. Joey moved and Elizabeth seconded approval of minutes and notes.
- Follow-up of status of Open Space Committee. At the last Town Meeting the Town Moderator reviewed committees that seemed to be extinct. He inadvertently included the Open Space Committee in that listing. Ann clarified at Town Meeting that the committee was indeed active.

Ann also went to the Town Manager's office and asked for an official clarification. Adam Chapdelaine said that we were a permanent committee of the Town and he will speak to the Moderator about our permanent status.

- Mill Brook - no update.
- Town Day - Adam will be printing out new maps for us displaying the Mill Brook area.

Lisa has sent him her file of these maps.

- Master Plan - Mill Brook is of significant interest in the Master Plan project.

Ann distributed a draft of Master Plan Goals for Cultural and Natural Resources/Open Space and Recreation Elements. She asked that anyone with additional input be in touch with her.

- Open Space Plan - We need to prepare a proposal for CDBG funding.

We requested \$15,000 last time and did receive that. Those funds were used for professional help in preparing the final plan document.

Elizabeth has kept notes of various accomplishments and she will distribute that to us.

Ann asks that all members look through the plan and make notes of accomplishments that we're aware of. The major part of the plan that we need to update is the listing of all the sites.

Adam should be able to help us with updating maps. We need to divide up the various tasks at a future meeting.

- Updates –

*Organic Materials Disposal Guide- DPW wants friends groups to be aware of this when they are doing clean-up days. The Conservation Commission, along with Charlotte Milan, the town's recycling coordinator, will be developing a publicity program for this initiative.

*Symmes - moving along - sales and leasing is going on, but occupancy is yet to occur.
There is some consternation about the tree removal in the area where the trailer is located.

*Downing Square - construction is nearing completion. There is supposed to be a mini-park including a couple of benches in the new design. The Housing Corporation is interested in develop the currently vacant lot nearby.

*Belmont Uplands – no update.

*Covenant School - one teacher expressed interest in doing something at the Reservoir Garden. No specific activity seems organized at this point. David will follow-up with the one teacher.

*Rain Gardens at Hardy and Hurd Field - we think they are completed.

*Michele reported that the Cemetery Commission is planning a columbarium in the cemetery in an area that they have discovered.

Town Day - Ann has reserved a booth for Open Space and the Land Trust, and coordinating with the Conservation Commission space.

9) September 7 (rain date the 8th) is Spy Pond Fun Day - there will be rides out to Elizabeth Island sponsored by the Arlington Land Trust with help from Arlington-Belmont Crew.

10) There will be a land stewards meeting on October 10th.

Next meeting will be September 26th. The November meeting is moved to the 14th. December's meeting will be on the 12th.

Submitted by
Patsy Kraemer
September 30, 2013